

THE WATHONIAN



JANUARY, 1956

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EDITORIAL

"The apparel oft proclaims the man."

IN the last few months the appearance of our members has undergone some revolutionary changes. That the new uniform for the sixth form has met with approval is evident from its predominance over the old one. The compulsory wearing of blazers by the rest of the school has left the realms of dreams raised at the sight of our rival schools at the Inter-School Sports, and has become a reality. Now more than ever, we are advertisements for the school and, it is to be hoped, worthy ones. Although the impression we make on the general public is an important factor, the psychological effect of pleasant uniformity on ourselves is even more important. Now that we can be proud of our appearance are we not more likely to achieve something worthy of our new self-respect?

The effects of misguided enthusiasm are seen in the rise of the modern Teddy Boys who, urged on by a sense of inferiority, wish to proclaim their own importance. Their aim is creditable but the method is deplorably anti-social. All schools have their part to play in combating such aberrations. They can best do it by increasing the self-respect of their members, inculcating a sense of responsibility for their actions, if only for the sake of the school, and thus creating in their impressionable years, loyal and reliable citizens instead of social misfits. By introducing an enforced but attractive uniform, we have become a community which not only is, but looks, worthy of the ardent loyalty that youth is capable of giving.

Once again, this year has been one of many changes. We have seen, with regret, many of the staff leave the school. Mr. Coomer has gone to teach near Wolverhampton, Mr. Freestone to Hunmanby, Miss Gledhill to a convent, Mr. Hogg to Bakewell, Miss Howard to London, Mr. Richardson as a lecturer to Leicester and Mr. Woodhouse to Boston. Their departure is a great loss to the school, both in the classroom and in a wide variety of school activities. We wish them every success in their new posts.

We welcome to the school, Dr. Saffell, Miss Marks, Mrs. Leggott, Miss Cox, Miss Roper, Messrs. Almond, Anthony, Cullen, Ward, and Dr. Caffrey, and we thank Mrs. Wilkinson for returning once more to our help.

We offer our best wishes to Mrs. Foster, Mrs. Wright and Mr. Jenkins on their respective marriages.

In an Inter-Schools Latin Reading Competition held at Sheffield, third prize was gained by Harvey. Eileen Garfitt and Marjorie Sells were commended.

The Staff are rehearsing for their play "The Spell of Virtue" to be performed next term. The Senior Dramatic Society produced two plays in the year, "Viceroy Sarah" and "A New Way to Pay Old Debts" and maintained the high standard we have come to expect.

During the Autumn and Spring Terms of 1955, the school had the benefit of visits from four distinguished former pupils, Mr. C. K. Phillips, Mr. J. M. Hawkesworth, Mr. A. Lazenby and Mr. J. Wilkes. They advised us on opportunities in the legal profession, the Steel Industry and on the broader aspects of education. It would appear that the traditions of W.G.S. are being successfully forged.

One change which has been effected in the school concerns the school uniform. The sixth form uniform, consisting of black blazer, black cap, and grey flannels, which replaces the former maroon uniform, is acknowledged to be very smart and to enhance the dignity of the sixth form.

The new buildings have necessitated many changes in the playing of games. As the new field across Festival Road is not yet ready, the playing area is very cramped. The school 1st XI is grateful to the Wath Cricket Club for their permission to play matches on the Wath ground.

A new house-recruiting system has been introduced in the past year. Houses no longer draw their members from the localities with which they have been traditionally associated.

We sympathise with Malcolm Greenhow on his misfortune in breaking his collar bone a few days before he was due at Gosforth as first reserve in the English Rugby Union trial. We congratulate Ian Walker, U. VI Lit., on gaining second prize with his essay on "The Christian and Muslim Concept of God," in an open competition sponsored by the Spalding Trust.

The Photographic Society's Exhibition in December was a delightful surprise and we hope it will become an annual event.

DR. C. R. T. SAFFELL, M.A.

Since the last issue of the Magazine, the School's third Headmaster has taken up his duties. We extend to Dr. and Mrs. C. R. T. Saffell a somewhat belated, yet most cordial welcome to Wath and to the school, and take this opportunity of expressing the hope that their stay in the district will be happy and rewarding.

Dr. Saffell comes to us from the Grammar School at Ebbw Vale in South Wales. He is experienced in the particular problems of an industrial area and sympathetic to its peculiar needs, whilst impatient of the inertia which prevents ultimate triumph over sometimes difficult circumstances. A man of outstanding vigour, keen interests and abundant energy he will certainly make great demands upon the school, and the unco-operative and work-resisting will no doubt have an uncomfortable passage. Yet already many have come to appreciate the kindly understanding and goodwill which are also characteristic of Dr. Saffell's personality. We feel confident that under his leadership and guidance the school will maintain its old traditions and achieve new fame, and we again wish him happiness and success during his Headmastership.

HOUSE NOTES

ATHENS



House Captains : Evelyn Martin, Hattersley.

Games Captains :

Senior—Pat. Law, Haywood.

Junior—Pat. Clarke, Adamson.

Games Committee :

Pat. Law, James.

Magazine Representatives :

Joan Hobson, Harvey.

The past year began with the introduction of Mrs. Pike as the new House Mistress. The girls' hockey practices were held regularly, whilst the senior boys held rugby practices as often as usual. This meant that it was a completely unrehearsed senior rugby team which won the first two of its matches. Later in the year, the girls provided half the school tennis-team, and throughout the year the boys provided half the scrum (in the form of Clements) for the school rugby team.

The success of the year was in the Deeks' Memorial Trophy competition. Placed fourth in the Autumn Term section (although first in the girls' half), Athens eventually gained first place by sixteen clear points, gaining a decisive lead in the second half of the competition.

As usual, the House Party was a great success, and set an example to all others, in that it was the Athenians who introduced the idea of having a large cake. As a whole, the House showed some progress throughout the year, for the number of detentions gradually decreased and society membership increased greatly.

On behalf of all Athenians, I welcome all newcomers, and hope they will readily enter into the activities of both House and School.

P.H.

CARTHAGE



House Captains : Jill Bedford, Noble.

Games Captains :

Senior—Sylvia Easom, Sanderson.

Junior—Vivienne Hughes, Russell.

Games Committee :

Sylvia Easom, Atkinson.

Magazine Representatives :

Janet Gray, Reed.

We should like to extend a hearty welcome to all new Carthaginians, especially Mr. Jenkins and Miss Roper. We hope that they will find their stay in Carthage a long and happy one and that the House will prove worthy of their loyalty. We also welcome the return of Mr. Leadley; we are pleased to see him, once more, taking an active interest in Carthaginian affairs.

This year, Carthaginians have once more revealed their prowess on the games field, by winning the Cross Country Cup, the Sports cup and the Summer Games Cup.

Unfortunately this success has not been maintained in our efforts to gain the Work cup, for we have once more filled the somewhat ignoble position of third. This failure may be partly attributed to the insistence of certain members of the House to work a five and a half day week, and the failure of others to join school societies. We hope these faults will be remedied next year.

One interesting feature of this year has been the remarkable improvement of the aquatic efforts of the House, for at the Swimming Gala we astounded everyone, ourselves included, by gaining second place.

We hope that this success will be maintained in the coming year and that the new members of the House will strive to enhance its reputation.

ROME



House Captains : Pauline Beighton, Clayton.

Games Captains :

Senior—Vilma Bailey, A. Law.

Junior—Valerie Moore, K. Willetts.

Games Committee :

Pauline Beighton, M. Booth.

Magazine Committee :

Rina Kirk, C. Mathews.

Rome extends a hearty welcome to all new-comers and trusts that they will uphold the standard set by their worthy predecessors.

The competition for the Physical Education Cup was in the form of a dancing contest, and the girls taking part were well rewarded for their hard work by being placed first.

As usual we had a grand house-party despite the fact that we ran a little short of money.

We were once again rather unlucky to lose the Winter Games Cup, but effort on the part of the team members was certainly not lacking.

The Work Cup remained in our hands once again during the Spring Term, but in the Summer Term it fell from our grasp, mainly owing to our boys' fondness for working at school on Saturday mornings.

The practices for the Sports were well attended, but despite all our efforts we could only gain third place. Although the Roman Swimming Club was popular with the girls, we could not prevent Sparta from winning the Gala once more.

We were very sorry to lose Mr. Richardson who had given us invaluable assistance during his term of office, and we wish him much happiness in his new post. We welcome Mr. Gilligan as our new House Master, feeling that Rome will thrive more than ever under his guidance.

C.T.M.

SPARTA



House Captains : Pamela Martin, A. Crooks.

Games Captains :

Senior—Janet Turner, T. Driver.

Junior—Jean Wallis, T. Wallis.

Games Committee :

Pamela Martin, M. D. Arnold.

Magazine Representatives :

Joan Knibbs, D. M. Wilkinson.

In keeping with a now almost legendary tradition, Sparta again came first in the Swimming Gala. On the games field, however, we have had no resounding success, although, except in the sports, we have avoided the bottom place. The senior rugby team has had one great victory this season and the junior boys have followed this example. The girls' teams, too, are trying hard, and so far have each drawn a match. If our efforts are duly rewarded, we may, perhaps, win the Winter Games Cup.

The ribbon of Sparta again adorns the Work Cup, but unless zealous efforts are made by certain members, so prominent in our thoughts on a Friady morning, it may be replaced by one of a more garish shade.

Our aspirations in the Deeks' Trophy Competition were fully met in the junior section, in which we gained first place. The results of the middle school section dashed our hopes in no uncertain manner and we finished in fourth place. Numerous choir rehearsals are being held for the current Deeks' Trophy Competition ; but the singing in the house assemblies offers only feeble glimmers of success.

To those Spartans who have left, we wish happiness and every success. To all newcomers we extend a sincere welcome, and hope they will maintain the high level of academic ability and sporting keenness shown by their predecessors.

D.M.W.

TROY



House Captains : Colleen Varney, A. Dunn.

Games Captains :

Senior—Joan Baxter, D. Bird.

Junior—Stephanie Clayton, D. Jackson.

Games Committee :

Joan Baxter, R. Denmar.

Magazine Representatives :

June Furr, K. Theaker.

Troy was very successful last term. We not only managed to come second to Carthage in the Sports, but also put a yellow band around the Summer Games Cup. Our defeat in the Work Cup, however, will be avenged, we hope, on the Rugby field by our strong Junior team which is no mean force to be contended with.

A hearty welcome is extended to Mr. Watts and Mrs. Leggott and we trust they will bring more success to the House.

Finally, we should like to send our best wishes to all former Trojans and also encourage the new ones to join school societies and support House activities.

SOCIETIES AND CLUBS

DISCUSSION GROUP

There was one outstanding paper delivered in the Summer Term, 1955. The subject was: "The Nature of Science," and the author was Gibbons, U. VI Sc., supported by Beaumont. The small group present reached a high level in the following discussion.

This term the group has held eight meetings; discussions ranging from one on Cyprus to one dealing with the dangerous topic—"Are scientists uncultured and illiterate?"

We have been particularly fortunate in our choice of chairmen, who have come from all branches of the Sixth. Their management of meetings has been skilful even when certain members have voiced narrow-minded, stubborn views.

Discussion on the whole has been of quite a high standard. Although our speeches can hardly claim to be inspired as yet, most speakers have shown discernment and judgment when passing their opinions on contemporary problems.

Outside visitors have included Dr. D. J. Cusiter, who spoke on his work as our local Medical Officer of Health. Another interesting topic which caused much controversy was: "The Scientist and General Education," a talk given by Mr. A. Lazenby, lecturer in Agriculture at Cambridge University and, incidentally, an old boy of the school. An outstanding contribution was made by two Indian students, who told us of their country and its problems. Again we can only admire their intellectual standing, and we are indebted to them for their enlightening talk on their country.

Attendance at meetings has been very good, all branches of the Sixth being well represented. Yet by no means all members have taken advantage of opportunities to express their views. However, it must be concluded that biscuits and those "cups which cheer but not inebriate," do much to stimulate discussion. R.J.

SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY SOCIETY

Chairman : J. Murfin.

Secretary : R. Jackson.

The society has commenced the term in vigorous style. We have held a series of snap-debates, and have heard such varied and interesting papers as, "A Rational Approach to Hypnosis" given by B. Cox, and "The Colour Problem" given by Mathews.

Meetings have been exceptionally well-attended and we welcome the increasing interest of the Lower Sixth. The paper by Cox proved to be a great attraction, resulting in a record attendance. We had the unusual privilege on this occasion to witness a not wholly unsuccessful attempt at a practical demonstration of hypnotism.

We look forward to having other interesting papers and debates, one of the highlights of which will be a talk about Russia by Mr. Cullen.

DRAMATIC SOCIETY NOTES

At present the Seniors are hard at rehearsals for our next production, "A New Way to Pay Old Debts," to be staged shortly. The rehearsals are progressing satisfactorily; that is, when we are allowed to use the stage, which seems to be in constant demand either by electricians, scenic-architects or choirs. Nevertheless, in spite of all this inconvenience, we are hoping to produce a performance worthy of our usual appreciative audiences.

Not to be outdone, the Staff Dramatic Society have begun readings for their next production "A Spell of Virtue," in March.

The Fourth Form and Junior Dramatic Societies are now incorporated in the Junior Society, whose drama sessions are now held only once a fortnight when the Juniors now in charge of Miss Marks rehearse and perform one act plays and mimes. The Fourth Form are "learning how to act"—rather painfully at times because they are practising the correct way to die or faint on the stage.

COLLEEN VARNEY (VI Gen.).

THE JUNIOR SOCIETY

This term has been a very successful one for the new Junior Society. As it is now a combination of the Junior and Fourth Form Dramatic and the Junior Literary Societies, it alternates between dramatic and literary activities.

At our first meeting we had "One Minute, please," in which everyone was induced to speak. We have had a very entertaining lecture given by Harry Mack of the Upper Sixth Science, on liquid oxygen as well as various quizzes, and an interesting and instructive talk on modern art given by Mr. Leadley.

At fortnightly intervals, we have also held several enjoyable meetings, acting various plays and mimes.

There is a waiting list to join the society and new members are being admitted as quickly as possible. We hope that the society will be as well supported in the future as it has been in the last term.

RUTH BRADSHAW (Q. IV).

THE PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

The Photographic Society is now firmly established with regular meetings on Tuesday evenings in the Science Block lecture room. We are happy to announce that the girls have shown themselves at last and are now as numerous as the boys.

During the Summer we held meetings only once a fortnight but we had an interesting and varied programme. Two outstanding talks on "Pictorial Composition" were given by Messrs. Leadley and Jenkins. They were extremely enlightening and gave us many useful suggestions. We also had a Kodak lecture on Portraiture.

Thanks to Mr. Pratt, Wood and Arnold, the society has a good enlarger which can be used by any member of the society at almost any time. The darkroom is being continually used by members for the practical work which plays no small part in our activities.

This winter we are expecting some interesting evenings. We hope to feature our two art masters again as well as having one or more lectures supplied by one of the large photographic firms. All being well, we shall display some of our photographs at the time of the school play in November.

We must again stress that to become a member it is not necessary to possess an expensive camera or have a knowledge of photography. Anyone with any kind of camera is welcome. Membership is open to forms VI and V, and if you are thinking of joining, well, make it snappy !

H. MACK (U. VI Sc.).

THE CHOIRS

Last Christmas there was a carol concert, given by the choirs, with solos by Pauline M. Gregory, Mr. Eyre, Mr. Woodhouse, G. Haywood and J. V. Taylor.

GIRLS : "Activity" has been the motto of the Girls' Choir this year. Meetings have been really well-attended, and much progress has been made. More juniors have been allowed to join the society, and they have helped a great deal.

On Speech Day, we sang three songs : "Fall on me like a silent dew," and "Beauty and Truth" by Coleridge-Taylor, and "Shepherd's Song" by Elgar. It was Dr. Saffell's first Speech Day, and we hope that he was pleased with both Choirs.

BOYS : This Choir has also been holding regular weekly meetings, and has progressed very well indeed. On Speech Day, they sang : "A Wet Sheet and a Flowing Sea" by G. Dyson, "Lonely Woods" by Lully, and "Roadways" by G. Holst.

It is hoped that the two Choirs will combine to produce an even better Christmas Concert this year.

We thank Miss Knowles and Mr. Eyre for their invaluable help, and also Ladlow for his help in accompanying.

PAULINE M. GREGORY (L. VI Lit.).

MUSIC SOCIETY

In any report on the Music Society it must be said with regret that, since the commencement of the Winter Term, its activities have been somewhat curtailed.

During the Summer Term we invariably held meetings in the dinner hours, when recitals of gramophone-records of all types were played to numerous enthusiastic sixth-formers. The records were generally preceded by an explanatory talk ; on the classics by Miss Knowles, and on light and jazz music by students who were well acquainted with that particular side of music. It is sincerely hoped that a resumption of the Society's activities will take place in the near future. To compensate for this loss, however, the sixth-form now have the pleasure of attending one music-appreciation period a week.

Visits to the City Hall, Sheffield, have proved to be very popular but should be much more frequent, at least once every three weeks; might I suggest that jazz and light musical concerts should also be visited as well as the classics. A recent visit on 7th October was to hear a Beethoven Concert given by the renowned Halle Orchestra and conducted by Sir John Barbirolli.

Choir meetings on Friday evenings have been very popular but there is a lack of boys as we have only two faithful male followers.

Please let us stimulate the Society's activities by arranging more visits to concerts, gramophone recitals and lectures, in order to increase our appreciation of the art of all arts, music.

LADLOW (VI General).

GUIDE NOTES



Guides in Action

At last the Guides seem to be making progress—thanks to our ever-able leaders Mrs. Pike and Miss Hardy.

All recruits have worked hard at their tenderfoot tests and a large number of second class badges have been awarded.

Those who have received their second class badge have been working for proficiency badges. Results were very good and Cook, Needlewoman, Athlete, Gymnast, Hostess, Scribe and Laundress Badges are some of those which are proudly worn. A number of guides who spent Saturday afternoons helping in a Children's Home at Rotherham gained practical experience which helped them to gain their Child Nurse Badge.

Under the supervision of Miss Hardy, we visited Youth Hostels on the Yorkshire Moors. Despite a rather damp walk on Ilkley Moor (with a hat), the venture proved to be such a great success that another party visited the Peak District.

Some guides have been working for first class badges and, through the hard work and ceaseless interest of Mrs. Pike, two have been successful. We managed to bring first class work into the routine of two of our meetings. This was the lowering of guides from the window outside G.I. to the quadrangle below. Some strong (?) scouts did their good turn by acting as anchor.

Among other activities we spent an enjoyable evening at a Thinking Day Party, to which we were invited by the Hoyland guides. Another evening was pleasantly spent when we successfully competed for the Company Camp Fire Badge.

Two parties from our company went with other companies to camp, one in North Wales, and the other at Driffield. The weather was glorious and everyone resolved to go to camp again next year.

We hope that the company will continue to flourish and that the aim of every guide will be to gain her first class badge.

JANET THOMPSON (V alpha).
JETTA SMITH (5 A).

SCOUT NOTES

This year has been a full and happy one for the scouts. Innumerable bodies have been lowered through the windows of the top corridor. Bob-a-job Week, though not as successful as last year's efforts, provided its customary crop of interesting and satisfying tasks, notably the laying of crazy-paving. In the annual Gang Show, held at Mexborough, our two items, "Murder on the Lonely Farm" and "Sea Shanties," were well received. Especial praise is due to the "pirates" in the latter for continuing to sing lustily in spite of lashes from "Chief Pirates," Becket and Pownall.

Once more, only partial success was ours in the Soap-Box Derby. In the Scout section, Keeling won the first heat at Leeds handsomely, but in the finals at Morecambe his car broke down under the tremendous strain when he was well in the lead.

This year's Annual camp was held at Levens in glorious summer weather that was a great contrast to last year's. All the boys climbed Whitbarrow Scar and the seniors undertook two-day hikes to Coniston Water, Windermere, and Ullswater.

1955 has been our Competition Year. In the Swimming Gala we again emerged from the water as victors over our great rivals, the 12th Don and Dearne; and the Senior Scout Competition, held in place of the Cycle Marathon, was won by our team of Law and Wood.

In the Summer a night hike was held for the Senior Scouts of the area. Where they went that night is still a mystery, and likely to remain so. At the annual Camp Fire of the Don and Dearne district, held at Swinton, our vocal efforts under the cheerful conductorship of Crooks contributed to a happy occasion. This Autumn Term the seniors have commenced fortnightly cookery lessons under the kind direction of Miss Roper. So far results have been somewhat mixed but it is hoped that the high cooking standards of the 8th in camp will be even more enhanced this forthcoming year.

A. G. LAW (U. VI Sc.).

LIBRARY

As usual there was the expected rush of borrowers when the library opened, and throughout the term the librarians have been kept very busy indeed. This year has seen the institution of a small County library, set up by Miss Marks, with the result that it is now possible to open the Library every day during both dinners. However, it would be helpful if more seniors volunteered to take care of the library.

Many new books for juniors, including various editions of the ever-popular "William" and "Biggles" series are now available. Books on sport and adventure are continually coming into the library and recent acquisitions are "The Bombard Story" and "The Borrowers," both recommended by the Book Society.

Of course, there are still those who forget to return their books, but the imposition of a small fine would jog some memories.

Largely through the efforts of Miss Marks, the library has been extended and organised more efficiently than has been the case in the past, and we feel sure these efforts do not pass by unappreciated.

R.J.

GIRL'S GYM CLUB

This club is one that is enjoyed rather more by juniors until the Summer Term. Throughout the Winter, meetings are held every Monday, Juniors and Seniors alternately. Either the Senior "Gymnasts" are not allowed to be out in the dark or they are overwhelmed by homework because far too few of them attend Winter meetings. It is a different story in the Junior section where there are so many girls wanting to join that instructions go unheard (or practically so).

In the Summer term there are no junior meetings and the seniors meet every week to play cricket. Our efforts seem rather amusing to the boys of the school but we are succeeding in getting more girls interested in cricket. We hope that one day cricket will appear as a feature of our timetable.

PAULINE BEIGHTON.

SPEECH DAY

Speech Day this year was held on Thursday, 14th July under the chairmanship of Councillor E. Wainwright, J.P. The guest speaker was Sir Harold Jackson, L.I.B., of Sheffield.

In his address Sir Harold said that if pupils were to follow out what they had been taught in school, then they would require at least three things: initiative, imagination and industry.

He urged that pupils should not play for safety when they go out into the world. The English people are creative and imaginative, and when we are up against it we show our imagination and initiative to get out of difficulties. Finally, Sir Harold referred to personality—"The things that makes you different from anybody else"—and added that when pupils go out into the world, they will have to work as hard as they had at school.

The certificates and awards were presented by Lady Jackson. The awards included the Deeks' Memorial Prize for English Literature to Barbara Clarke and Thomas Swallow; the John Ritchie Memorial Prize for Science to Anthony Gibbons; the Winifred Cooper Awards to the Head Girl, Judith Law, and the Head Boy, John Fennell; and the Prizes for the best G.C.E. results at "O" level, to Ruth Beaumont, Anne Young and Kenneth Wallis. This was the first occasion in the history of the school that the John Ritchie Memorial Prize and the Prizes for the best G.C.E. Result at "O" level have been presented.

In his report, the Headmaster, said that he had found the House system and the amount of out-of-school activity a noteworthy feature of the school. The "esprit-de-corps" and House loyalty which existed between staff and pupils had been a pleasant surprise and for this he owed his thanks to the staff. He also stressed that he welcomed co-operation from parents at all times.

Dr. Saffell referred to the changes which he proposed to make. He claimed that the success or failure of a pupil depends primarily on personality. "Unfortunately, too many pupils coming to the school considered getting to a grammar school more important than success when they have got there." To help to remedy this attitude he would require more homework from most forms. Without making their lives miserable with monotonous toil, he hoped to teach them that to do anything well involves effort. The ability to undertake at least two subjects at "A" level would be necessary in all normal cases for admission to form VI. Form V gives the passport to a job, but form VI should open the avenue to a career. He hoped that pupils would use form VI as a field of exploration and as a stepping stone, not just as a rest room to await entrance to training college because they could not think of anything else to do.

Finally, Dr. Saffell proposed to introduce school uniform in form VI. He wished every boy, during his attendance at school and after, to be proud of his school and to want to advertise on all occasions that he belongs to a grand school.

The Boys' Choir sang, "A Wet Sheet and a Flowing Sea" by George Dyson; "Lonely Woods" by Lully and "Roadways" by Gustav Holst. The Girls' Choir sang "Fall on me like Silent Dew," and "Beauty and Truth" from the "Othello" music by S. Coleridge-Taylor, and Edward Elgar's "The Shepherd's Song."

A vote of thanks was proposed by Councillor J. Bedford, and seconded by the Head Boy and Head Girl.

R. JACKSON (U. VI Sc.).

THE STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT CONFERENCE

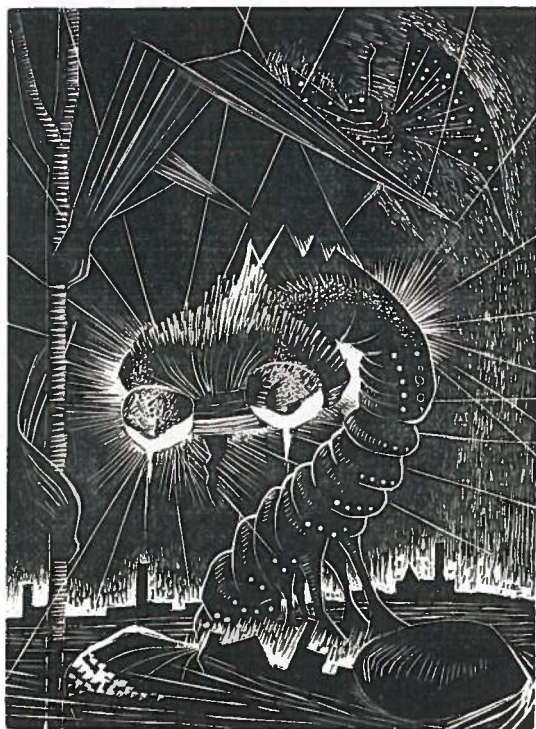
The Student Christian Movement Conference was held this year at Wath Grammar School. The Speaker was the Rev. Selby Johnson, M.A., Vicar of Hooton Roberts who dealt with the following topics in a very scholarly manner:—

1. Scientific Humanism and other modern heresies.
2. What does a Christian need to know?
3. The relevance of Christianity to the Twentieth Century.

There was a good gathering of senior students who gained much benefit from the discussions.

A sum of £3 10s. 0d. was contributed to S.C.M. funds. It is proposed that this year the school should become an affiliated member of the S.C.M.

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS



Quatermass III

E. A. Dunn (6 Gen.)

“I HAVE A GARDEN”

I have a garden, and a well have I,
And over my well hangs a pail :
Every Sabbath comes my beloved
And drinks pure water from my pitcher.

All the world is asleep—hush !
The apple and pear tree are slumbering :
My mother slumbers, asleep is my father,
Only I and my heart are stirring.

And the pail like my heart is awake,
It drips gold into the mouth of the well ;
Dripping gold, and dripping crystal :
My beloved is walking, my beloved is coming.

*From a Hebrew poem by C. N. Bailik.
Translated by I. WALKER (U. VI Lit.).*

BEHIND THE ACADEMIC CURTAIN

Time is short and my report must be brief, for the danger of discovery is imminent. This "school" is undoubtedly a tool of the capitalist war machine. The buildings here are cunningly contrived to allay suspicion, the traditional main building cloaking the activities of the administrative, experimental and research centre which is in a new block some distance away. Great security measures are adopted here; behind locked doors destructive weapons are being produced hourly with the aid of stolen blueprints and secret films, and crumbling walls point to the existence of underground workshops. At a great risk, I was able to watch the trials of the latest of their weapons, code-named "SCORCHER."

The workers are compelled to take part in these activities by overseers and black-coats. The black-coats act as police, and have absolute powers of punishment which they mete out at weekly trials in a small dank cell. The overseers live a luxurious existence, arriving each day in chauffeur-driven limousines. They are to be recognised by their cloak-like uniforms and merciless faces. Rebellious workers are punished by forfeiting their little free time to take part in experiments and to suffer brain-washing. Once weekly, money is extorted by the overseers from the pale, thin workers who are loth to relinquish it. At frequent intervals the sound of a shrill bell causes automatic reactions among the groups of workers who wearily move to their next task. A dossier, complete with photograph, is kept of each worker. The entire system is governed by a group of dictators who meet periodically to issue directives. All routes to these meetings are blocked by the black-coats.

Many areas have been marked out on the field, in which groups of workers rain warfare on each other. The workers are allotted time for this and are controlled by a leader who blows a whistle whenever the fighting lacks vigour.

Other workers are compelled to remain behind at night, to be trained in the art of disguise of voice, appearance and character; they also learn to sleep out in bitter conditions, to signal, to send coded messages, and to photograph secret installations.

I must close my report now, because each evening the workers are herded into trucks by the black-coats and overseers and I intend to follow one tonight to continue my investigations. Another report will follow if I am successful.

Code reference : VI Gen.

"THE CATCH"

I saw her coming towards me,
Her grace was delightful to see;
Clad in a scarlet jacket
She was coming straight for me;
With eager anticipation,
I drew myself up tall . . .
I was filled with jubilation,
I had caught that cricket ball.

J. FLETCHER (4a).

THE BALLAD OF ROOM 29

In room 29 the lights are dimmed,
The atmosphere is tense ;
Against the prefects you have sinned,
You should have had more sense.

The judge sits at the table-head,
His cronies all around,
The evidence produced and read,
And judgement quickly found.

The ruler then is passed down quick,
A lethal weapon, surely
Twelve feet long and six feet thick—
Enough to make you poorly.

When the ordeal you have faced,
And think that you may go,
After you with lines they haste,
And yell out, "Arf a mo."

You turn round slowly, to receive,
A twelve page task on "Truth,"
Which would indeed a hero grieve,
It's horrible, forsooth.

With pen as bent as a pelican's bill,
And hourly cries of "Strewth,"
The whole night long you're writing still
That twelve-page task on "Truth."

G. BEAZLEY (Q. 2).

THE TOWER OF LONDON

The Tower of London, from the outside, is a majestic looking place with its Traitors' Gate and White Tower started by William the Conqueror.

When I visited the Tower in 1954, I was fascinated by the ravens, and the block upon which famous people were beheaded.

I visited the room where Sir Walter Raleigh was imprisoned and saw marks on the wall to prove that he and many more prisoners had been there.

After many minutes waiting, my family and I were admitted into the "Wakfield Tower" to see the crown jewels. They were marvellous, but we were kept moving by the yeomen warders in their scarlet and gold uniforms with E.R. on the front. Although I did not know it at the time, some warders were in the roof watching everyone as they walked round, to make sure no one tried to steal the precious jewels.

I left the Tower of London feeling that I had had a glimpse of the past, and had enjoyed it very much.

JANET HARDY (2b).

THE HIGHWAYMAN

The highwayman is dressed in black
And rides at dead of night ;
With pistols hanging by his side
He looks a fearsome sight.

Along the cobbled roads he speeds,
Past lonely graveyards dim,
With only the moon to light his way,
A figure gaunt and grim.

He robs and kills to fill his purse,
And coaches are his prey.
"Stand and deliver !" is his cry,
" 'Tis death to disobey !"

Why does he plunder ? Why does he kill ?
Why does he risk his soul ?
Because adventure is his trade,
And danger is his goal.

1b (1954-55).

A FISHING EXPEDITION

Have you ever experienced the thrill of feeling a really big fish on your line, or the disappointment of losing one you have brought within inches of your reach ? Or again the unpleasantness of a downpour of rain when far out at sea, with the wind seeming to cut little chunks from your face and hands ?

All these little incidents, coupled with many others, some pleasant, some less so, add up to make a deep-sea fishing trip something that stands out on its own, for sheer excitement and adventure. There is the tingling feeling at the back of your neck when you feel the first little snatch at the bait ; the excitement when you strike and the hook bites home ; and most of all the satisfaction of seeing the darting flashing shape first appearing through the depths of the ocean.

Mackerel, Plaice, Cod, Whiting or humble Dab, they all fight hard, sometimes with success at the last second, and these few lucky ones are always the largest—for you have never heard of a fisherman who lost a small fish.

A famous person once said, "See Naples and die." I say, "Go fishing and you'll have lived."

D. J. MOULSON (3c.).

STRAY CONVERSATION

- Dog* : Did you like that huge kennel, we went in today ?
Cat : It wasn't a kennel, it was a house, because it had animals with two legs in it.
Dog : It was noisier than a kennel anyway.
Cat : I nearly got trampled to death in the corridors, when we first got there.
Dog : I think it was a rush for bones.
Cat : Or fish !
Dog : Afterwards they all went into separate little kennels, and all was quiet for about three-quarters of an hour, and then there was another rush for bones.
Cat : I wandered into one of the kennels, and everyone started to chase me, regardless of a big animal in a black cloak. The small animals seemed to be very glad of a chance to be noisy again. I escaped through a window fortunately.
Dog : I found myself in a kennel where everyone was speaking a funny language, instead of sensible doggy dialect. A creature with big bows in its hair kicked me, so I bit it on the ankle. There was quite a fuss made about it.
Cat : At the end of the afternoon I was in the yard, and everyone came out of the kennels. They all rushed joyfully away.
Dog : Yes, it was a silly place wasn't it ? We are much too sensible to go there again.

PATRICIA KEMP (3a).

THE REINDEER

(Based on one of Aesop's Fables)

Down, in the midst of a beautiful wood,
Near a pond of the deepest blue,
A reindeer stood with critical eye,
Admiring the glorious view.

He also admired his antlers tall
And looked at his legs, so thin,
And thought how terribly ugly they looked,
They really appeared a sin.

The sound of a huntsman's horn was heard,
And the reindeer fled in a fright,
But his antlers caught in a nearby tree,
As the huntsmen hove into sight.

As dying he lay, he thought of his folly ;
"My legs could have saved me," he cried,
"Tis my beautiful antlers have caused my death,"
And he painfully gasped, then died.

MAUREEN HANCOCK (5b).

AIR TRAINING CORPS

(*motto: Venture, Adventure.*)

The A.T.C. (Air Training Corps) is an organisation to train boys as officers for the Royal Air Force.

It came into official existence on February 1st, 1941. At first it was for boys of sixteen years and upwards. It was to be called the "Air Training Force," but it became the A.T.C.

Amongst its many exercises are the four survivals (that is Sea, Jungle, Artic and Desert survivals), and navigation, map-reading, signals, .303 rifle and Browning machine-gun instruction. It also has sports, athletics, and inter-wing Association and Rugby football matches. It joins in Civil Defence exercises, and has general instructions at Royal Air Force stations.

For example one Sunday, most of the squadron of which I am a member went to R.A.F. Lindholme. On arrival we were formed into three squads. One squad had a lecture in the control tower, the second went to the Link trainer, the aircraft which never leaves the ground, whilst the third went for an hour's trip in a Vickers Varsity T.1 of Bomber Command. After lunch in the airmen's mess, we all went to the lecture room for a film.

At the annual camp, which was held at Royal Air Force Hucknall in Notts., which is half Rolls Royce experimental station, we had fifteen minutes in a De Havilland Chipmunk, a morning on the rifle range and lectures on the Martin Baker ejection seat Mark I and aircraft crash service.

The A.T.C. is truly an enjoyable but hard-working organisation.

W. D. FROGGATT (4b).

A WORKING HOLIDAY

How much three summers behind the scenes of a boarding-house have opened my eyes to people in general!

The day begins at seven o'clock when you scramble out of bed on the top storey and try to creep silently down to the basement. Here you prepare your breakfast and usually manage to eat it without interruption. Of course, at eight o'clock the horrible little person who wants morning tea would be on the very top floor, and so you race up all the stairs with a cup of tea in your hand, trying to reach your destination before the tea gets cold. On your way down you dust the stairs. After this you put out the cereals whilst appetising odours float up from the basement.

At nine o'clock the gong goes and everyone rushes into the dining-room. When the first plates go in, there are cries of "No tomato, please," "One without egg," "Peter doesn't want any today, dear" and you serve the rest of the plates trying frantically to remember these orders. In the finish you discover that there are at least two plates extra. You now wait outside the dining-room door, first on one foot and then on the other until everyone has emerged. There are always a few old ladies who sit chattering whilst their partners smoke and argue about the cricket results. Then the rush starts again.

By the end of the week you have washed enough pots to last for a life-time. In one week for thirty people, about 4,410 pieces of crockery and about 3,570 pieces of cutlery are washed. In between breakfast and dinner all the rooms have to be dusted and the beds made. Therefore, up you go again right to the top floor and dust on the way down.

Dinner is the happiest meal of the day ! The butcher comes late, the soup boils over and the Yorkshire-puddings burn. It is rather more complicated than breakfast and there is always some-one who manages to spill on the cloth or stick his foot in the wrong place. As you pick yourself up, you see people all round you, grinning as if enjoying a huge joke. After dinner there are more pots to wash and when at quarter past three the pots and pans are all away, there is the job of preparing for tea. This is a comparatively easy meal as everything can be put out before the people come in, but when they do there is always some-one who does not want tomato on his salad, or does not like crab. After tea, what do you do? Of course, wash up and then set the tables for breakfast.

When, finally, everything is finished for the day you wearily hobble up, right to the top floor, and if you are not mentally and physically exhausted by then, you go for a walk. What some people will do for money !

BERYL FISHER (L. 6 Lit.).

GOGGLES GAY

Young Goggles Gay of Bampton school
Triumphantly surveyed
The very queer contraption, which
He had himself just made.

It had coiled springs and bits of string,
A battery (five volts),
Some dials and a cycle pump,
A bike chain, nuts and bolts.

“Whatever is it ?” asked his friend,
“A model air’plane, eh ?
Or p’r’aps a television set ?
What’s on—a thrilling play ?”

“Don’t show your ignorance, my boy,”
Said Goggles, with a snort.
“I’ve built this marvellous machine
To teach all kinds of sport !

I’ll even teach our Mr. C.,
Though oft he will be cavillin’,
Till, in the end, he will become
Still better with a javelin.”

DUNCAN J. GAWTHORPE (Q4).

PLEASURE FLIGHT

How many readers have indulged in the so-called thrill of flying? Recently, whilst on holiday, my companion and I decided to take to the air like the birds by taking a "pleasure-flight."

As we approached the flying field, the windsock was stretched almost horizontally by a stiffening breeze, which blew accumulations of withered leaves across our path. Climbing into the cockpit of the small Auster Aiglet aircraft, we were introduced to the pilot, and to our fellow passenger, an old lady of eighty, complete with umbrella—this object, we presumed, would literally become a "brolly" in case of emergency. The engine roared, and we taxied out on to the runway. The pilot opened the throttle, released the brakes, and with tremendous acceleration the plane moved forward, until, with one mighty lurch, we left the ground and our hearts behind. We were flying. Climbing swiftly, we banked over the aerodrome and headed for the sea, the noise of the engine reverberating in our ears. At one-thousand feet we flew over the promenade gazing down with wonderment at minute buildings, motor-cars, the boats on the harbour, and queer little two-legged creatures that were crawling all over the place. We began to turn, when suddenly, whilst we were banking, the wind caught the little machine and it almost overturned. We did not feel too good, but, judging from the shriek of delight uttered by our dear old lady, she enjoyed the thrill. The pilot only smiled, as we headed back, to land without difficulty. He taxied over to the hangar, the engine was cut, and we staggered out on to mother-earth.

Though we had been in the air for no more than five minutes we were ten-shillings lighter as we made our way home.

B. H. TOLLEY (U. 6 Lit.).

THE MENACE

(With apologies to Acton Bell)

Ah, well, if this indeed be all
The cam'ra shows to me ;
If on my aching eyes may fall
Nought earthly, just T.V. ;

If with no softer light than this,
Our T.V. screen may glow ;
Then truly ignorance is bliss,
And better than this show.

If films must be so full of fights
Or hackneyed scenes that bore,
Give me the strength to seek the lights,
And show my neighbours to the door.

JENNIFER WILKS (U. 6th).

THE RESOLUTION

A man strides slowly and silently into the room and gazes about him with dark, almost black, eyes. His gaze now wanders to the large mirror hung on the wall. He utters a horrified cry, his eyes fill with anger, his fingers stroke his chin and he appears to be meditating. His eyes stray to the large gold watch on his left wrist and he hurries from the room.

He walks briskly into the adjoining room. He looks round with searching eyes. Ah ! he has found the object of his search, and now he grasps in his large muscular hand a sharp instrument. He stares into a smaller mirror on the wall, rubs his face almost violently, and then he raises his right hand. It comes nearer and nearer. The strong sunlight catches the instrument in his hand and it glints horribly. His eyes are large and opened wide. The blade comes nearer and nearer to his throat . . . and he begins to shave.

HILARY MADDISON (4b).

CAMP COCOA

To the cook-house came young Henry,
To the cook-house Henry ran,
To the cook-house for his cocoa,
With his shining billy-can.

In the warm midsummer evening,
'Round the dixie, flickering flame,
To the cook-house came young Henry,
For his cocoa Henry came.

Lovely liquid, gently steaming,
Sweet aroma, rich and hot ;
To the cook-house came young Henry ;
Supper's served there on the spot.

First in queue, so first for cocoa,
First away and first to taste.
Back to cook-house came young Henry,
To the cook-house came post-haste.

He complained, did little Henry,
In a shocked voice, "Cocoa's burned !"
'Twas in cook-house that young Henry,
Extra Scout rule Henry learned.

Every night in cook-house, Henry,
Brewing cocoa "by the book."
Unwritten rule for little Henry—
NEVER CRITICISE THE COOK.

J. GITTINS (Q4).

THE NEW GIRL

At last it was September fifth, and I knew that on the following day I should be going to Wath Grammar School.

My uniform was bought and put ready to wear. The empty satchel looked very new and I felt awkward with it on my shoulder. My Aunt, who had been captain of the First Eleven, gave me her hockey stick. The only thing I knew about the game was which end to hold the stick.

That night I could not sleep for dreams of cruel Masters and Mistresses, all with large canes and the knowledge of how to use them.

Next morning, with my beret on very straight, and butterflies in my stomach, I arrived at Wath. Alice must have felt just as I did when she fell down the rabbit hole !

Everybody seemed to know what to do and where to go except me.

After what seemed like two years, it was four o'clock, and I came home with my beret on not quite so straight, and my new satchel full of books. Feeling very important and hoping I looked like a sixth former, I got off the bus. Oh ! what a relief, the first day was over !

PAT DOHERTY (1b).

DANCE MACABRE

Perpetrated upon "The Daffodils."

I went as quickly as I could
Past the churchyard on the hill,
When all at once I saw a crowd,
A host of spectres grey and chill,
Beside the church, beneath the trees,
Swaying and moaning in the breeze.
Continuous as the stars that shine
And dazzle on the "movie" screen,
They moved in ever-ghastly line
Around the tombstones, mossy green.
Twenty saw I at a glance,
All wailing there, in gruesome dance.
The ghouls beside them danced, but they
Outdid the fiendish ghouls in glee.
I could not help but run away
From such a fearsome company.
I took one look, and little thought
What dreams the show to me had brought.
For oft, when at my desk I laze,
In vacant or in pensive mood,
I see in my averted gaze
A picture of that multitude,
And then my heart with horror fills,
And all my joy in life it kills.

MARGARET NICHOLLS (VI Gen.).

CAMPING IN THE LAKE DISTRICT

If you enjoy being out of doors, you will, I am sure, like camping. Camping is a life of ease, with no worries as to when to go in for meals and when to get up or go to bed. But it is not just sleeping in a tent. When we go camping, we go for rambles and, if the camp site is near water, we go canoeing and swimming. If you do decide to try it, go as a member of a Camping Club. This club will arrange all the sites. You meet many friendly people and make many new friends.

Last Whitsuntide the Sheffield D.A. Camping Club arranged a meet in the Lake District. We arrived on Friday night and pitched our tent in a field by the side of Coniston Water.

During our short stay we never lacked something to do. We went rambling, played camp cricket and some of the hardier men went swimming in the Lake.

One morning the Youth Section of the Club climbed Coniston Old Man. There was a fairly good road up as far as the slate quarry, but after that, there was only a rough track. We stopped and had dinner about two thirds of the way up, by the side of a small tarn, the waters of which looked cool and refreshing. After dinner we set off on the last stage of the climb, which seemed difficult to my friend and me; but after a hard struggle we arrived at the summit. The climb was worth the effort as the view was wonderful. We could see for miles around, having a good view of Lake Windermere and even Morecambe Bay.

Another excursion was to Ambleside for a trip on the steamer down Lake Windermere. Among our many activities was canoeing. One of the members of the Camping Club had brought some canoes. My friend and I borrowed the canoe and went about three miles down the Lake. As it was the first time that we had been in a canoe we were rather timid at first, but after a time we began to enjoy it. The last night of our stay we had great fun in watching the men playing polo in the canoes. Much to everyone's surprise no-one fell into the water, but by the time they had finished playing they were all very wet.

We went home on the Tuesday morning after having spent a very enjoyable holiday.

C. WEBSTER (L. 6 Lit.).

THE WORLD IN 2955 A.D.

As I woke up this morning feeling unusually bright, I called Henrietta, our mechanical maid. When she came into my room I told her to prepare my space suit.

"Are you going somewhere, miss?" she asked.

"Yes," I said, "I feel like visiting school today, so tell mother I shall be out, will you?"

Here I must tell you that I do not go to school every day as we have a special televiewer fitted into our house. The teachers do not mind our not going and therefore I only go when I feel like it.

After I had eaten breakfast (an energy tablet), I went outside to find Horace, Henrietta's husband, had my space "cycle" ready. I started the engine and set off for school.

When I arrived at school I greeted my friends and then went to my desk, which is fitted with automatic controls so that when I need a book or pen I just press the button marked "Stationery" and a panel slides open.

Our mistress walked into the room then so that I had no other chance to speak to my friends. After she had settled down in her chair, she said, "Today we are going to study the mode of life of the people of the year 1955. Settle yourselves comfortably, girls, because I think you will find this interesting."

She told us how, in 1955, women had to paint their faces to make them look beautiful because they had no beauty tablets as we have.

To make their hair look lovely, women went to a hairdresser to have their hair permed, set or dyed. We just rinse our hair in special lotion and we have the right colour or style.

They also had to stand before a blazing fire or an electric stove to cook food. We have mechanical servants.

Women, and some men too, either drove their own cars, or had a chauffeur to drive them. Now, all our transport vehicles are automatically controlled.

Small children used to play games such as skipping, hop-scotch, and Cowboys and Indians. In these days the small children play very grown-up games like poker, draughts and billiards.

In 1955, scientists were racking their brains to find a way of making life easier. We have no worries of that type because we do not want the world any more advanced than it already is.

When our teacher had finished, I asked my friend what the next lesson was and, as she told me it was Maths, I decided to go home on my space cycle.

I bet that the children of 1955 wished their school was like ours.

MARGARET MOORE (4a).

LITTLE SISTER

My little sister is six years old. She is a nuisance, as most little sisters always are. She plays with dolls and looks at picture books. Her hair is blonde, and her eyes are blue. She has a round face, with a cheeky grin.

Just now she is playing at school with her dolls. She herself is the teacher, and the dolls are on the settee. Frequently she jumps up, snatches hold of a doll and spansks it severely. "That will teach you not to talk in class again," she will say with a look of satisfaction on her face.

When I am doing my homework, she is continually asking me, "Have you nearly finished?" I reply, telling her that I will not be long.

About seven o'clock when my mother tells her that it is her bedtime, she says, "Can't I just watch the Grove Family on television?" Mother gives in and says that she can, providing she is washed and in her pyjamas. At that, she rushes upstairs and is back in ten minutes. My mother looks at her to see if she is clean and more often than not she has to go back and wash her neck. She stamps her foot and protests, for, like all other little girls, she has a very bad temper.

At seven thirty we all settle down to watch the Grove Family. At eight o'clock my mother tells her to go to bed. At that she says, "Make him come too," meaning me and so I have to go to bed.

ANONYMOUS (3e).

THE CURATE'S EGG

Passage Perilous.

It was about four o'clock on a January evening, 1955. From a darkening sky, the continuously falling snow hissed with the violence of hailstones against the waterproof cape and sodden cap of the weary traveller. The bag which was slung over his bowed back dripped with water as he plodded along. Then a black expanse of water appeared in front of him. After only momentarily faltering, he strode bravely on. Now a steady swish of water against his boots broke the silence. Deeper and deeper waded the traveller into the darkening pool. Nearing the centre he glanced around him. On three sides grey flakes of falling snow were all that met his searching eyes; but as he glanced ahead he saw a faint light. With renewed hope, he increased his pace slightly and, after stepping thankfully from the pool, ran towards the looming shelter.

Once more the traveller had managed to complete, in safety, the perilous journey from the Practical Subjects Block.

PAMELA JENKINSON (L. 6 Lit.).

Progress Report

Work on the new practical subjects block began in the distant past, with tremendous vigour.

From the beginning, as Fred announced it would be, the task was a strenuous one.

Years later, work on the new hall began, literally, with a bang. The restful peace and quiet of E. 2 and neighbouring cells was suddenly shattered by the sounds of feverish activity. A concrete-mixer thumped out a staccato beat, with an occasional cough and splutter, and a would-be Gigli gave what at a distance sounded like a monotonous but raucous incantation of an African witch doctor. His efforts were quite unintelligible and, judging by the comments, were by no means appreciated by his colleagues. They, poor souls, were quite close to him, and at that range his vocal persecution must have been extremely acute.

Finally, at great expense, the very special anti-subsidence and earth-quake-proof foundations were laid, and the remainder of the buildings "sprang up," if that is the correct expression.

We now have our new extensions. Admittedly the practical subjects block has now broken in half, the science block is crumbling, and the new hall stands forlorn like a vast super-cinema awaiting its J. Arthur Rank. But what are these trifles? We ought to be thankful, a member of the Tea-Mashers' Union assures me, that we got them at all.

IAN F. POTTS (L. 6 Sc.).

Literary Mice

Not being content with feeding themselves upon the buns, cakes and delicacies of the Christmas parties and hiding themselves in a girl's shoe so that the owner's sudden shrieks startled even the studious Upper VI Literary, the school mice have now turned to English Literature. They seem to have taken quite a liking to George Bernard Shaw, having chewed the edges of several of his books. Their favourite book is "Saint Joan."

Although showing a preference for drama, they appear to approve of Keats. They have their dislikes, too. On at least four occasions they have shown their abhorrence of modern poetry, by scattering volumes of it on the floor.

As they have also shown a great interest in Miss Knowles's music, their cultured taste should certainly be commended. They may in time come to approve of Modern Poetry but apparently not of baited cheese.

MARGARET SWALLOW (5 alpha).

Red v. Black

"I observed two large ants, the one red, the other much larger, nearly half an inch long, and black, fiercely contending with one another . . . Looking farther, I was surprised to find that it was not a "duellum," but a "bellum," a war between two races of ants, the red always pitted against the black, and frequently two red ones to one black."

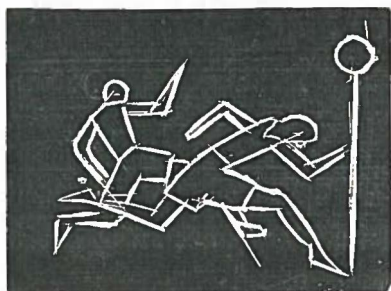
Keep calm. This is not a Martian visitor's report on queues outside the school. The author, Thorcau, died in 1862, well before the new sixth form uniform was introduced.

What a nerve-racking experience it is to read the morning lesson in assembly. Taking your courage in both hands you mount the platform slowly. You take a deep breath, grip the lectern firmly, and survey the sea of upturned faces in front of you. Oh no, you think, I can't go through with it—but you must! You commence. Your voice sticks in your throat, then—horror, you make a mistake! Has it been noticed? Are you condemned as illiterate for ever? With knocking knees and a thumping heart you continue—and at last it is all over. Breathing a sigh of relief, you descend from the platform, only to be reminded that you have to go through it all again tomorrow.

ANONYMOUS.

GAMES

THE SCHOOL SPORTS



The athletes of Carthage once again showed their prowess by carrying off the Staff Cup for the second time running, second was Troy, third Rome, fourth Athens and fifth Sparta. On the appointed day, May 19th, at the appointed time, 1.40 p.m., five diminutive boys scuttled 100 yards to begin the "House Hundred" and the afternoon's sport.

At approximately five minutes past two, after the Girls' "House Hundred" and a keenly fought Boys' Group Four 100 yards, the first hail-stone struck and at 2.10 p.m. the field was devoid of athletes and spectators alike.

The next afternoon was more favourable and two records were equalled and five broken. Equalled were the Boy's Group three High Jump by Westwood at 5ft. 0½ in., and M. Beevers her own Group three Girls' 100 yards record in 12 seconds. Records broken were the Boys' Group two Relay by Troy in 58.2 secs., the Girls' Group two 100 yards by M. Parrish in 12.5 seconds, the Girls' Group two Long Jump by a leap of 15ft. 7½ ins. by M. Parrish, the Girls' Group three Hurdles by B. Fisher in 12.4 seconds, and the Girls' Group two Hurdles by B. Cowdell in 12.9 seconds.

M. ARNOLD (U. 6 Sc.).

INTER-SCHOOL SPORTS

The Inter-School Sports were held this year at Thorne on July 19th, a day which turned out to be ideal for Athletics being warm with a cool breeze. The track was in excellent condition with plenty of grass, and its only fault was a series of slight bumps on one bend which made the going rather difficult for the sprinters.

The Junior representatives of the School did well in sharing the Junior Shield with Goole and Maltby, first places being taken by Short, in the Hurdles, and by the Relay Team, who lowered the record to 53.8 seconds. Second places were gained by Jackson in the 80 Yards and Sergeant in the Long Jump.

In the Middles' events, Wath slipped to fourth place; Westwood winning the High Jump and Wake the Hurdles; Moody being second in the Shot Putting event.

Wath could only manage four third places in the Senior events and occupied fifth place. Copping and Young were third in the High Jump and Long Jump respectively, and Arnold was third in the two short sprints.

In the final placings, Wath was behind Maltby, Thorne and Goole with Mexborough fifth.

M. D. ARNOLD (U. 6 Sc.).

CROSS-COUNTRY NOTES

This year the cross-country was run on Tuesday, 22nd February in about an inch of snow. The race was expected to be close as there was no-one really outstanding, and so it turned out to be. At Abdy Farm, where it is usually clear who will win, the first four runners were within ten yards of each other. The race was won by Taylor (T.), followed by Crooks (S.), Law (R.), Wallis (S.), and Wroe (C.). The competition was won by Carthage, who had five men home in the first ten, with 147 points, the other scores being, Rome—216, Sparta—260, Troy—294 and Athens—359.

The Inter-Schools Run was held at Thorne on Wednesday, March 16th, where unfortunately we did not repeat the performances of previous years. The flat course was to our disadvantage, and the race was won by Knaggs of Mexborough. The first Wathonian home was Taylor (10th), and we finished second, equal to Mexborough, with 89 points, whilst Goole won with 35 points. The school team was Taylor, Bassinder, Law, Wroe, Crooks (Capt.), Wallis, Nelson, Copping.

K. F. WALLIS (U. 6 Sc.).

INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING GALA

The eighth Swimming Gala was held on Tuesday, 12th July, 1955, and once again Sparta was successful in gaining the cup.

There was, however, such a narrow margin between the Spartans and the Carthaginians that the former will not have to rest on their laurels if they hope to continue their run of successes.

The highlight of the evening was the novelty race, when the male members of the staff showed their skill at navigating a tyre with a small and inadequate paddle.

The final positions were :—

1—SPARTA ..	113½	points.
2—CARTHAGE ..	104	„
3—ROME ..	99	„
4—TROY ..	77½	„
5—ATHENS ..	64	„

PAMELA A. MARTIN (U. VI Sc.).

TENNIS

First Team :	<i>1st Couple.</i>	<i>2nd Couple.</i>	<i>3rd Couple.</i>
	*A. Meyers (Capt.)	*J. Hobson	†P. Law.
	*B. Hinchliffe.	†P. Oldknow	†J. Wilkes.

Second Team chosen from :

P. Bingham, E. Dixon, R. Kirk, H. Key, M. White, E. Beckett, M. Gill, S. Skidmore.

* Full Colours.

† Half colours.

Results :		<i>1st Team.</i>	<i>2nd Team.</i>
Abbeyle (away) .. ..	.. ..	Lost (23-56)	Lost (23-49)
Thorne (home) .. ..	.. ..	Lost (36-45)	Won (50-38)
Doncaster Convent (home) .. ..	.. ..	Lost (4-5)	—
Woodlands (away) .. ..	.. ..	Won (9-0)	—
Rotherham (away) .. ..	.. ..	Lost (28-53)	Lost (31-50)
Hemsworth (home) .. ..	.. ..	Won (60-21)	Won (60-21)
Woodlands (home) .. ..	.. ..	Won (56-43)	—

Two more very enjoyable matches which must be mentioned are the Staff and Old Wathonians fixtures, the school winning the former and the latter being drawn. Although the result sheet appears very black at the first glance, the season was not entirely wasted, as by the end we were much more experienced especially in the art of losing gracefully.

We are looking forward to next season, when, we hope, the seeds planted by our coach will bear fruit.

JOAN HOBSON (U. 6 Lit.).

PAT LAW (U. 6 Lit.).

ROUNDERS

The First team was chosen from :— P. Beighton* (*Capt.*), J. Fowler*, B. Fisher†, J. Dawson, B. Dawson†, L. Carter*, M. Huddart†, J. Mason, P. Hunter, R. Senior.

* Full Colours.

† Half Colours.

Results :	1st Senior	2nd Senior
Thorne (home)	Won 8—1	—
Woodlands (away)	Won 7—6½	Drew 2—2
Woodlands (home)	Drew 1—1	Won 3—0
	1st 'Under 15'	2nd 'Under 15'
Thorne (home)	Won 2½—1½	—
Doncaster Convent (home)	Won 4—3	Won 2—1½
Mexborough (away)	Won 4½—½	—
Hemsworth (home)	Won 4—1	—

The rounders teams did not lose any of their matches, the 1st and 2nd senior teams making a successful return to competitive rounders after a lapse of one season. The keenness of the "Under 15" teams bodes well for the future.

PATRICIA E. LAW (U. 6 Lit.).

JOAN M. HOBSON (U. 6 Lit.).

HOCKEY



First team : B. Senior, P. Lockwood, J. Atkin, M. Huddart, P. Beighton (*Capt.*), P. Sanderson, D. Banks, B. Fisher, P. Law, R. Kirk, S. Easom,

The results of the latter half of the 1954/55 season were somewhat overshadowed by the large number of cancellations owing to the bad weather. In the Sheffield tournament the First XI failed to reach the semi-finals. The outstanding match of the season, the Staff match, was won by the School first XI by 5 goals to 2. We hope that the Staff will endeavour to avenge their defeat this year.

This season so far has been one of varied success but practice should improve the standard of play as the season goes on.

The results so far are :—

	1st XI.	2nd XI.
v. Mexborough .. ..	.. Lost 0—1	Won 7—1
v. Rotherham .. ..	.. Won 1—0	Won 2—1
v. Woodlands .. ..	.. Lost 2—4	Drew 3—3
v. Doncaster Convent .. ..	.. Won 5—1	Won 2—1
v. Doncaster M.H.S. .. ..	.. Won 3—1	Won 8—0
v. Hemsworth .. ..	.. Won 4—1	Won 4—1
v. Ecclesfield .. ..	.. Lost 0—2	Won 7—1
v. Barnsley .. ..	.. Won 5—0	Drew 3—3
v. Ecclesfield .. ..	.. Won 4—2	Won 8—3
v. Doncaster M.H.S. .. ..	.. Lost 2—4	Won 5—1
v. The Staff .. ..	.. Won 2—1	

PAULINE BEIGHTON (VI Gen.).

CRICKET



“Under 15” Results :

- v. Mexborough G.S. (Home). Won by 8 wickets. 11 for 2 — 10.
- v. Rotherham Schools (Home). Won by 29. 63 — 34. Hemsworth G.S. (Away). Won by 6 wickets. 28 for 4 — 27.
- v. King’s School, Pontefract (Away). Won by 5 wickets. 70 for 5 — 63.
- v. Hemsworth G.S. (Home). Won by 5 wickets. 34 for 6 — 32.

The team was chosen from the following :

Good (*Capt.*), Beckett (*Vice-Capt.*), Sanderson, Watkin, Roberts, Sidebottom, Mallinson, Amos, Percival, Schofield K., Schofield, R., Kerry, Hill, Barker.

The “Under 15” XI has had a very happy and successful season playing five games and winning five. These victories are due to fine team spirit and some exceptionally good bowling but the batting was not of the same standard. The fielding was very good and helped to capture many wickets. Hill bowled very accurately whilst Sidebottom batted very well.

“Under 14” Results.

- v. Goole (Away). Won by 36 runs. 72 — 36.
- v. Mexborough (Away). Won by 5 wickets. 36 for 5 — 34.
- v. Thorne (Home). Won by 6 wickets. 33 for 4 — 32.
- v. Mexborough (Home). Won by 16 runs. 34 — 18. (Percival 7 for 11).

The team was chosen from the following :—

Sidebottom (*Capt.*), Amos (*Vice-Capt.*), Percival, Kerry, Hyde, Jackson, Schofield K., Schofield R., Gawthorpe, Upton, Tate, Mitchell, Swales.

The “Under 14” XI has had a very successful season winning all their four matches. As usual in Wath Grammar School cricket, the bowling made the wins possible. Percival bowled very well in these matches and Amos had a good season with the bat.

First XI.

Once again the First XI had only a moderately successful season. However, the tale is not so dismal as last year’s. Fielding was greatly improved and in the later stages of the season a better team spirit prevailed.

All the home matches, excepting the Woodlands and Old Boys matches, were played on the Wath Athletic Ground where a time limit of three hours had to be imposed for each match. This limitation spoilt what could have been exciting finishes to some matches and also spoilt the team’s chances of winning yet another match.

Half Colours were awarded to Hooper B., Smith, Swinburne and Wood.

The team was selected from the following :—

Hooper B. (*Capt.*), Law (*Vice-Capt.*), Ashton, Atkinson J., Atkinson T., Hayes, Sanderson, Sidebottom, Smith, Swinburne, Taylor, Weston, Wood and Wilkinson.

Two recruits from the “Under 15”, namely Hill and Beckett, also played.

Record : Played 10. Won 3. Lost 6. Drew 1.

- v. Mexborough (Home). Won. Wath 94 — 6 (Sidebottom 34 N.O. Taylor 20). Mexborough 75 — 4.
- v. Hemsworth (Home). Lost. Wath 77 (Swinburne 20), Hemsworth 118 — 6 dec.
- v. Goole (Away). Drawn. Wath 34 — 7. Goole 55 (Swinburne 7 for 18).
- v. Pontefract (Away). Lost. Wath 15. Pontefract 140 — 5 dec.
- v. Mexborough (Away). Lost. Wath 61 (Hooper 30 N.O.). Mexborough 62 — 8 (Smith 4 for 32, Wood 3 for 11).
- v. Thorne (Away). Lost. Wath 68 — 9. Thorne 71 — 5.
- v. Hemsworth (Away). Lost. Wath 44. Hemsworth 82. (Sanderson 4 for 11, Wood 3 for 22).
- v. Woodlands (Home). Won. Wath 59. Woodlands 17, (Wood 8 for 5).
- v. Old Wathonians (Home). Won. Wath 85 (Sanderson 51). Old Wathonians 53 (Swinburne 3 for 7).
- v. Mexborough (Home). Lost. Wath 86 — 8 (Law 26). Mexborough 98 — 9.

Prefects v. Staff.

Prefects 49 (Young 20, Mr. Eyre 4 for 13, Mr. Atkinson 6 for 14).
Staff 56 (Mr. Hogg 17, Fennell 3 for 0).

A. G. LAW (Upper 6th Science).

SCHOOL RUGBY

Last season finished very favourably for us. The first team won 14 matches, lost 3 and drew 1. Points for 204; points against 116. The record for the Second team is :— won 11 and lost 6, while the "Under 15" won 2 and lost 4.

The First XV record was surprising in that the team was unbeaten away and suffered its three defeats at home, two of which were very crushing at the hands of the Old Wathonians and Sheffield, who between them scored 70 points at our expense.

In the Ilkley Seven Aside Competition, we had little luck and only managed to reach the second round. At Barnsley, however, we were more successful, in winning the cup outright.

Last season we were honoured in having Booth, Hooper and Beaumont picked to play for South Yorkshire during the Christmas Holidays.

This season the teams show promise and we hope to attain the standard set by last year's teams. Unfortunately, we have already had to cancel two matches because of bad conditions.

I would like, on behalf of the teams, to thank the sixth form girls who very kindly provided refreshments after our exertions.

Finally, I would like to express our gratitude to Mr. Hogg for his untiring efforts in coaching the teams and wish him well in his new post.

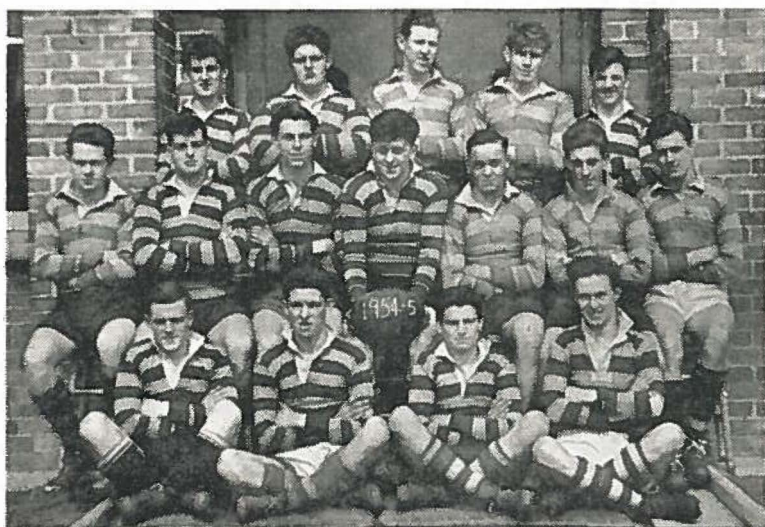
Results :

1st Team.	Sept. 10th	Ex-Captain's XV	..	..	H.	Won	21—13
	Sept. 17th	Pontefract K.S.	..	..	H.	Won	6—0
	Sept. 24th	Rotherham	..	..	H.	Won	16—0
	Oct. 1st	Bakewell	..	..	H.	Draw	11—11
	Nov. 12th	Pontefract	..	..	A.	Won	6—3
	Nov. 19th	Thorne G.S.	..	..	H.	Lost	6—9
	Nov. 26th	Goole G.S.	..	..	H.	Won	6—3
	Dec. 10th	Hemsworth	..	..	H.	Lost	5—17
	Dec. 17th	Old Wathonians	..	..	H.	Lost	0—14

2nd Team	Sept. 17th	Pontefract	..	..	H.	Lost	0—11
	Sept. 24th	Rotherham	..	..	H.	Won	5—3
	Nov. 12th	Pontefract	..	..	A.	Drew	8—8
	Nov. 26th	Goole G.S.	..	..	H.	Won	10—6
	Dec. 10th	Hemsworth	..	..	H.	Lost	6—18

"Under XV"

Oct. 1st	Spurley Hey	..	..	A.	Won	21—6
Nov. 12th	Spurley Hey	..	..	H.	Won	29—6
Nov. 19th	Thorne ..	..	..	H.	Won	14—9
Nov. 26th	E.S.C. under 16	..	..	A.	Lost	12—13
Dec. 3rd	E.S.C. under 16	..	..	H.	Won	16—8
Dec. 10th	Hemsworth	..	..	H.	Won	9—6



The First XV

OLD WATHONIANS' ASSOCIATION

In May the Committee of the Old Wathonians' Association welcomed their new President, Dr. C. R. T. Saffell. We all hope he will enjoy the years he spends with us, both as Headmaster of our School and President of our Association.

We are very grateful to Miss Swift for taking the place of the President when we were without one, especially as she was so busy with School affairs.

The Re-Union was held on Saturday, April 2nd. It was different from former Re-Unions. This time a dinner was held in the new Dining Room. The Guest of Honour was John Wellens, who made an interesting speech at the end of the meal. The Re-Union was then continued in the Hall in the usual way.

As the Re-Union was such a success, a similar one is to be held on Saturday, April 14th, 1956. The Guest of Honour will be John Wardle. It is hoped that even more Old Scholars will come along and help to make the evening successful and enjoyable. Tickets (available at the school and from the Committee) will be 10/6d. Dance only, 2/6d.

Old Scholars were able to see the Table and Chair which had been bought as an additional memorial to Miss Deeks. These were on view at the Re-Union.

It has been decided that Mr. Ritchie's Memorial should be on similar lines, that is, an annual prize and a tangible Memorial in School. The prize, which was awarded for the first time in 1955, is for the best general all-round performance on the Science side in the G.C.E. Advanced Grade.

There is to be a piece of sculpture for the new hall.

We have been pleased that Mr. Leadley has been able to come back to school, and hope that he will continue in better health.

The Old Girls' Tennis and the Old Boys' Cricket Matches were held on July 14th.

MARRIAGES

George William Gibson (W.G.S.) to Joyce Farmery.
Ron Blackburn (W.G.S.) to Sheila Totty (W.G.S.)
Joseph Simmonds Hawkes to Marion Abson (W.G.S.)
John Wendes to Sheila Robson (W.G.S.)
Terry Leach-Shore to Margaret Jean Garfit (W.G.S.)
James S. Harris to Betty Waddington (W.G.S.)
Rev. Thos. A. Wharton to Marjorie Myers (W.G.S.)
Donald R. D. Walton to Enid Thompson (W.G.S.)
James Beevers to Joyce Darrand (W.G.S.)
Kenneth Lythe (W.G.S.) to Eva Darnforth
Dr. Kenneth Burton (W.G.S.) to
Derek Gibbons (W.G.S.) to Dorothy Haywood (W.G.S.)
to Shirley Waddington (W.G.S.)

BIRTHS

- Mr. and Mrs. A. Robinson—a second son.
Mr. and Mrs. J. Wilks (Kathleen Carr)—a son. (omitted from last Magazine).
Mr. and Mrs. Galbraith (Betty Harrington)—a son (1952), a daughter (1955).
Mr. and Mrs. Turner (Enid Coster)—a son.
Mr. and Mrs. R. Hillerby—a daughter.
Mr. and Mrs. Adams (Jean Atkinson)—a son.
Mr. and Mrs. K. H. T. Hill—a son.
Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Phillips—a son.
Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Evans—a daughter.
Mr. and Mrs. Wilson (Muriel Heeley)—twins (son and daughter) 1954.
Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Matthews (Doreen Hutchinson)—a son.

DEATHS

We regret to record the deaths of :—

- Eric Hedley Kerry (1935 - 1942).
Ralph Ball (1933 - 1937).
Peter Addy (1940 - 1947).
James Maddrell (1944 - 1951).

DEGREES

We congratulate the following on obtaining degrees :—

- Peter Nayler, Ph.D., Manchester.
J. V. Burgess, Bachelor of Technical Science Degree (in the First Division), Sheffield.
Dan V. Adams, Bachelor of Veterinary Science—Liverpool. (Also made a Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons).
Peter R. Gaskell, B.A. (1st Class Hons.) Sheffield.
Rex Birkinshaw, B.Sc. (Gen. Hons.) Leeds.
Mavis Clifton B.Sc. (Gen. Hons.) Sheffield.
Wendy Wood, B.A., Leeds.
Brian Wilby, B.Sc. (Textiles), Leeds.
David Kirk, B.Sc. (Metallurgy), Birmingham.

Congratulations are also extended to :—

- Patricia Kilner on being appointed to the staff of the Prince Rupert School, Wilhelmshaven.
Rufus Winstanley on his appointment as Superintendent of the West Riding Police at Barnsley.
Irene Grainger and Mary Goddard on passing the examination for a State Registered Nurse.
Wendy Shaw on passing as a Clerical Officer in the Civil Service.

News of Old Scholars, which we are always pleased to have, should be sent to Miss Swift at School or to the Secretary, Miss Kathleen Clark, 19, Claypit Lane, Rawmarsh, Rotherham.

OLD WATHONIANS R.U.F.C.

Since the appeal for playing members two years ago, the fortunes of the club have taken an upward swing and still continue to do so, that is, as far as match results are concerned.

In June we held our first Dinner, which was enjoyed by the members who attended, and it is hoped that with support we can make it an annual affair.

Of the forty-seven games played during the last two years, only eight have been lost, and during the present season, the club has reached the 5th Round of the Yorkshire Cup and has been included in the competition for the Yorkshire Shield. Quite a record for the O.W.'s.

The standard of play is improving but tackling is still weak. The pack under Oldfield is playing more as a unit, while the backs, who are fast and often dangerous, do not always play together and lose the advantage of having two strong, hard-running wingers.

We welcome the return of Ardon, Staniforth, Fisher and Teale to our ranks and offer encouragement to Sidebottom after his satisfactory debut at full-back.

We thank the School Governors for the use of the playing area and also Dr. Saffell and his staff who have helped and supported us during our most successful start to the season.

Results to date :—

Sept. 3rd	Scunthorpe	..	..	..	A.	19—9	Won
Sept. 10th	Dronfield	..	..	..	H.	14—8	Won
Sept. 24th	Burley	..	..	..	A.	19—8	Won
Oct. 8th	Sheffield T.C.	..	..	..	H.	9—14	Lost
Oct. 15th	Leeds T.C.	..	..	..	H.	17—6	Won
Oct. 22nd	Old Rishworthians 2nd Rd. Cup				A.	8—3	Won
Oct. 29th	Bradford Salem "A"	..	..	..	H.	17—13	Won
Nov. 5th	Doncaster 3rd Rd. Cup				H.	10—6	Won
Nov. 12th	Old Brodleians	..	..	..	A.	3—17	Lost
Nov. 19th	Hull Old Grammarians 4th Rd. Cup	..	..	..	H.	18—8	Won
Nov. 26th	Scunthorpe	..	..	..	H.	6—0	Won
Dec. 3rd	Old Crossleyans 5th Rd. Cup				H.	9—9	Draw
Dec. 17th	School	..	..	..	H.	14—0	Won

Finally, to all Rugger players leaving school, do not forget us. If you are interested in playing, come along, we will give you a game.

If you are interested, contact :—

P. Ibbotson	..	..	..	Wombwell
R. B. Oldfield	..	..	..	Thurnscoe
B. Lidster or W. H. Mattock	..	..	..	Wath
H. G. Staniforth	..	..	..	Bolton

PREFECTS, 1955-56

Girls.

Peggy Sanderson (*Head Girl*), Brenda Sharpe (*Deputy*), Joan Knibbs, Pauline Bingham, Pamela Martin, Joan Hobson, Patricia Law, Elaine Dixon, Sheila Dobson, Pauline Beighton, Josephine Simpson, Evelyn Martin, Rina Kirk, Isobel Senior, Colleen Varney, Janet Turner.

Boys.

R. Jackson (*Head Boy*), J. Murfin (*Deputy*), P. Harvey, D. M. Wilkinson, G. Selwood, A. Crooks, D. Wood, H. Mack, D. Weston, B. Cox, C. J. Clayton, G. W. Humphrey, B. H. Tolley, K. F. Wallis, M. D. Arnold, E. A. Dunn, M. Booth.

GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION, 1955

Advanced—Altogether 37 candidates took papers at advanced level, and 32 were successful, 14 obtaining certificates in three subjects.

County Major and State Scholarship : Anthony Gibbons.

County University Exhibitions :	J. Ashton	B. Hooper,
	J. Murfin	M. Taylor
	Judith Law	Brenda Sharpe

Supplementary State Scholarship : Eileen Garfitt.

County Bursary : Eileen Garfitt.

Edgar Allen Open Scholarship : Eileen Garfitt.

N.C.B. Scholarship : B. Hooper.

Ordinary—Altogether 136 candidates took papers at ordinary level and 125 were successful, 35 obtaining certificates in five or more subjects.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We acknowledge gratefully the receipt of the following magazines :—
"Acta," "Alumnus," "Danensis," "Don and Dearne," "The Trees," and the magazines of Hemsworth, The Percy Jackson, and Rotherham Grammar Schools and Rotherham High School.

Editor : PEGGY SANDERSON (Upper VI Lit.).

Sub Editor : C. J. CLAYTON (Upper VI Lit.).

Trophy Successes, 1955.

Sports	Carthage
Deeks' Trophy	Athens
Swimming Gala	Sparta
Summer Games	Troy
Work Cup—Easter	Rome
Summer	Sparta
Christmas	Sparta
Winter Games	Carthage
Girls' Physical Education	Rome
Boys' Cross Country	Carthage

